

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An isolated biopolymer marker consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 ~~which evidences~~ indicative of a link to Type II diabetes.

Claims 2-38. (cancelled)

Claim 39. (withdrawn-currently amended) A method for determining [[the]] presence of a biopolymer marker indicative of a link to Type II diabetes consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 from a mass spectrometric analysis of a sample obtained from a patient comprising:

(a) ~~obtaining a sample from a patient~~ preparing said sample for a mass spectrometric analysis by subjecting proteins contained in said sample to chromatography, electrophoresis and enzymatic digestion;

(b) conducting mass spectrometric analysis on said sample as

prepared in step (a) in a manner effective to maximize analysis of  
to obtain mass spectral profiles of peptide fragments peptides  
contained therein; [[and]]

(c) comparing a reference mass spectral profile characteristic  
of a [[said]] biopolymer marker consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 having an  
ion peak at about 1215 daltons to mass spectral profiles of  
peptides obtained and analyzed from said sample; and

~~(c) confirming the presence of said biopolymer marker~~  
~~consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 in said sample by identifying a mass~~  
~~spectral profile having an ion peak at about 1215 daltons;~~

~~wherein the presence of said biopolymer marker consisting of~~  
~~SEQ ID NO:1 is indicative of a link to Type II diabetes~~

(d) matching said reference mass spectral profile to a mass  
spectral profile of a peptide obtained from said sample by  
identifying said ion peak at about 1215 daltons;

wherein a match confirms presence of a biopolymer marker  
indicative of a link to Type II diabetes consisting of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 40. (withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein said  
sample is an unfractionated body fluid or a tissue sample.

Claim 41. (withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein said  
sample is selected from the group consisting of blood, blood  
products, urine, saliva, cerebrospinal fluid, and lymph.

Claim 42. (withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein said mass spectrometric analysis is selected from the group of mass spectrometry formats consisting of Surface Enhanced Laser Desorption Ionization (SELDI) mass spectrometry (MS), Maldi Qq TOF, MS/MS, TOF-TOF, ESI-Q-TOF and ION-TRAP.

Claim 43. (withdrawn) The method of claim 39, wherein said patient is a human.

Claim 44. (withdrawn-currently amended) A kit for determining [[the]] presence of a biopolymer marker indicative of a link to Type II diabetes consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 comprising: (a) a peptide consisting of SEQ ID NO:1 and (b) an antibody that binds to said peptide in a sample obtained from a patient.

Claim 45. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 44, wherein said antibody is immobilized on a solid support.

Claim 46. (withdrawn) The kit of claim 44, wherein said antibody is labeled.